

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 L-03 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01 SPC-03 PM-07 SS-20

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FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8997

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PARM/XM/OPANAL

SUBJECT: OPANAL SECRETARIAT EFFORTS RE USG ADHERENCE TO
PROTOCOL I TO TREATY TO TLATELOLCO.

REF: MEXICO 8111

1. AMBASSADOR MET NOVEMBER 28 WITH SECRETARY GENERAL
GROS ESPIELL OF ORGANIZATION FOR PROSCRIPTION OF NUCLEAR
WEAPONS IN LATIN AMERICA (OPANAL). HE REVIEWED FOR
GROS USG POLICY IN RELATION TO ADHERENCE TO PROTOCOL I:

(A) ON CANAL ZONE, THERE WERE NO MAJOR OBSTACLES
TO USG ADHERENCE;

(B) IN RELATION TO GUANTANAMO BAY, USG MIGHT BE
WILLING TO ENTERTAIN QUESTION OF PROTOCOL I ADHERENCE
AT SUCH TIME AS CUBA BECOMES PARTY TO OPANAL;

(C) PUERTO RICO AND VIRGIN ISLANDS, AS INTERGRAL
PART OF TERRITORY UNDER US DEFENSE SECURITY SYSTEM, WOULD
HAVE TO BE REGARDED AS ANY OTHER US DOMAIN;

(D) THERE REMAINS MAJOR DIFFICULTY IN QUESTION OF
TREATY APPLICABILITY OVER EXTENSIVE AREAS OF INTERNATIONAL
WATERS.

2. GROS ESPIELL THANKED AMBASSADOR FOR THIS PRESENTATION.

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IN RESPONSE HE AGAIN NOTED THAT, CONTRARY TO CASE WITH

PROTOCOL II, RESERVATIONS ARE PERMITTED IN ADHERING TO PROTOCOL I. ACCORDINGLY, IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE FOR USG TO MAKE VERY BROAD RESERVATIONS CONCERNING EITHER SPECIFIC TERRITORIES OR IN RELATION TO THE OPEN OCEAN QUESTION. HE LEFT WITH AMBASSADOR A MEMORANDUM IN WHICH IS DISCUSSED THE POSSIBILITY OF PIECEMEAL OR PROGRESSIVE ACCEPTANCE BY US OF PROTOCOL I APPLICABILITY -- E.G. IT COULD BE MADE APPLICABLE INITIALLY TO CANAL ZONE WITHOUT REFERENCE TO OTHER AREAS OF PARTICULAR US INTEREST. IN LATTER CASE, GROS ESPIELL FELT THERE WOULD BE SIGNIFICANT POLITICAL GAIN.

3. ON A RELATED TOPIC, GROS ESPIELL REPORTED HIS SATISFACTION WITH OUTCOME OF RECENT UNGA FIRST COMMITTEE DEBATE (USUN 5003). BASED ON HIS PRIVATE SOUNDINGS WHILE IN NEW YORK, HE EXPRESSED CONFIDENCE THAT USSR WILL ADHERE TO PROTOCOL II, PERHAPS AS EARLY AS NEXT SUMMER.

4. FINALLY, RETURNING TO QUESTION OF USG ADHERENCE TO PROTOCOL I, GROS GAVE AMBASSADOR COPY OF A DRAFT RESOLUTION WHICH HE HOPES OPANAL DIRECTING COUNCIL WILL APPROVE IN TIME FOR CONSIDERATION AT LATIN AMERICAN FOREIGN MINISTERS MEETING WITH SECRETQRY KISSINGER. THRUST OF THIS RESOLUTION WOULD BE TO COMMIT LAS'S TO CAMPAIGN FOR INSCRIPTION OF PROTOCOL I ITEM ON AGENDA FOR NEXT UNGA. GROS, IN PASSING, NOTED LIMA DEBATE ON MODIFYING OAS CHARTER TO INCLUDE REFERENCE TO LA NUCLEAR FREE ZONE.

5. DOCUMENTS REFERRED TO IN PARAS 2 AND 4 BEING FORWARDED TO ARA/MEX AND ACDA (FOR MR. VAN DOREN).
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